

IT IS CLAIMED:

1. A memory card system, comprising:
an enclosed electronic circuit card having first and second sets of electrical contacts with different contact patterns positioned apart from each other along a length of the card such that they mate with a respective one of first and second mating receptacles but not the other, at least the first set of contacts being carried by an outside surface of the card,
a re-programmable non-volatile memory that is operably connected to transfer data between the memory and outside of the card with different signal protocols through either of the first or second sets of contacts without use of the other, and
a cover carried by the card and rotatable by hand between at least first and second positions about an axis extending across a width of the card, the first set of contacts being covered when the cover is in the first position and exposed for insertion into the first mating receptacle when the cover is in the second position.
2. The memory card system of claim 1, wherein the first set of contacts has a contact pattern and signal protocol therethrough that follows a USB standard.
3. The memory card system of claim 2, wherein the second set of contacts has a contact pattern and signal protocol therethrough that follows a memory card standard.
4. The memory card system of claim 3, wherein the memory card standard is a SD card standard.
5. The memory card system of claim 4, wherein the external shape and dimensions of the circuit card when the cover is in its first position also follows the SD memory card standard.

6. The memory card system of claim 2, wherein the second set of contacts is also carried by an outside surface of the card.

7. The memory card system of claim 1, wherein the cover is rotatably connected with the card through a pair of double-axis hinges.

8. The memory card system of claim 1, wherein the cover is rotatable by one-hundred eighty degrees between the first and second positions.

9. The memory card system of claim 1, wherein the axis of rotation is positioned between the first and second sets of contacts.

10. The memory card system of claim 1, wherein the axis of rotation moves with respect to the card as the cover is rotated between the first and second positions.

11. An enclosed electronic circuit card, comprising:

a first portion having a predominately rectangular shape with a first thickness and a first set of contacts positioned at one end of the card to be accessible at an outside surface thereof,

a second portion rigidly connected to the first portion and having a rectangular shape with a width less than that of the first portion, a second set of contacts positioned on an outside surface thereof at an end of the card opposite said one end and a second thickness less than the first thickness, and

a cover hinged to the first portion of the memory card in a manner to be rotatable by hand about an axis extending across the width of the card between at least a first position that covers the second set of contacts and a second position that exposes the second set of contacts.

12. The card according to claim 11, wherein contacts of the first set of contacts are positioned in recesses in the outside surface of the first portion that extend to open to the one end of the card.

13. The card according to claim 11, wherein the cover is hinged to the first portion of the memory card at edges thereof on opposite sides of the second portion.

14. The card according to claim 13, wherein a discontinuity in thickness of the card exists at the connection of the first and second portions on a side of the second portion containing the second set of contacts.

15. The card according to claim 14, wherein the first and second sets of contacts are positioned on a common side of the card and an opposite side of the card includes a planar surface extending across both of the first and second portions.

16. The card according to claim 14, wherein the cover has an uneven thickness that forms a common planar surface with the second portion when the cover is in the first position.

17. The card according to claim 11, wherein the second portion is connected to the first portion at a center of the first portion across its width.

18. The card according to claim 17, wherein the cover has sidewalls that extend along both sides of the second portion when the cover is in the first position.

19. The card according to claim 11, additionally comprising a re-programmable non-volatile memory therewithin that is operably connected to transfer data between the memory and outside of the card through either of the first or second sets of contacts without use of the other.

20. The card according to claim 19, wherein the second thickness and second set of contacts have dimensions and are arranged according to a published USB plug standard.

21. The card according to claim 19, wherein the first thickness and first set of contacts have dimensions and are arranged according to published specifications of a SD memory card.

22. A method of transferring data between a first host having a first receptacle for receiving and connecting with a first set of circuit card contacts according to a first circuit card published standard and a second host having a second receptacle for receiving and connecting with a second set of circuit contacts according to a second circuit card published standard, wherein the first and second sets of contacts are physically incompatible with each other and the formats of at least some of the signals communicated therethrough are also incompatible with each other, comprising:

providing a memory circuit card containing re-programmable non-volatile memory that is accessible for transfer of data therewith through either of the first and second sets of circuit card contacts externally positioned thereon at spaced apart locations of a surface along a length of the card and with a cover positioned over the first set of memory circuit card contacts when closed but rotatable about an axis extending across a width of the card,

rotating the cover away from the first set of circuit card contacts to expose them, thereafter inserting the first set of circuit card contacts into the first receptacle of the first host,

thereafter transferring data from the first host into the memory of the memory circuit card through the first set of circuit card contacts,

thereafter removing the first set of circuit card contacts from the first host, thereafter rotating the cover back into position covering the first set of circuit card contacts,

thereafter inserting the second set of circuit card contacts into the second receptacle of the second host, and

thereafter transferring the data from the memory of the memory circuit card into the second host through the second set of circuit card contacts.

23. The method of claim 22, wherein the second set of contacts of the memory card being provided conforms to the SD memory card standard and the memory card has a shape when the cover is closed that is in accordance with the SD memory card standard.

24. The method of claims 22, wherein the first set of contacts of the memory card being provided conform to the USB standard.